

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 093126

43

ORIGIN AID-31

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PC-01 USIA-06 IO-10 INR-07 DODE-00

AGR-05 INT-05 COME-00 IGA-01 /073 R

66605

DRAFTED BY AFR/CWR/SDU:JKELLY:HMILLER:JP

APPROVED BY DAA/AFR:DSBROWN

AFR/CWR:DSHEAR

AFR/CWR:ICOKER

AF/W:JBISHOP

COM/TR:RJAMES(INFO)

----- 011727

P 231730Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 093126

AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: USE OF COTONOU/GAO ROUTE

ROME FOR SKILES PASS OSRO

1. THE GOVERNMENT OF MALI HAS INDICATED NEED FOR ADDITIONAL
DONATED STOCKS IN GAO REGION OF MALI FOR CROP YEAR 1974/75.
US INTENDS TO ASSIST GOM MEET THIS NEED BY SHIPPING PORTION
OF REQUIRED STOCKS OVER COTONOU/PARAKOU/NIAMEY/GAO RAIL AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 093126

ROAD ROUTE. IN MAKING DECISION TO SHIP VIA THIS ROUTE,

FOLLOWING FACTORS WERE CONSIDERED:

A. FORWARDING MOPTI STOCKS TO VI REGION: MOST DONATED STOCKS CURRENTLY STORED IN MOPTI (APPROXIMATELY 12,000) ARE DESTIN FOR GOUNDAY, TIMBUKTU AND GAO. PAST GOM DIFFICULT SEVARE-GAO ROUTE HAVE CONSISTANTLY FALLEN SHORT OF GOM'S PROFESSED CAPABILITY. MULTI-DONOR MISSION CONCLUDED THIS YEAR THAT GOM HAS SUFFICIENT TRUCKS TO ACCOMPLISH VI REGION PRE-POSITIONING OBJECTIVES BUT GOM CURRENT SIPHONING-OFF OF ITS LOGISTICAL CAPABILITY TO REINFORCE MALI INTERESTS IN UPPER VOLTA BORDER WILL UNDOUBTEDLY RESULT IN PRE-POSITION SHORTFALLS ASSUMING CURRENT DONOR EFFORTS TO ASSIST GOM MOVE MOPTI STOCKS TO

VI REGION ARE SUCCESSFUL, MAIN EMPHASIS WILL HAVE TO BE DIRECTED TO BUILD-UP OF STOCKS IN GOUNDAY AND TIMBUKTU SINCE ACCESS TO THESE AREAS FROM MOPTI IS CUT-OFF EARLY IN JULY; WHEREAS, FOOD DELIVERIES TO GAO FROM NIGER CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED YEAR ROUND.

B. ABIDJAN-GAO SHIPMENTS: ATTEMPTS TO SHIP STOCKS TO GAO OVER THIS ROUTE WILL BE SUBJECT TO CONSTRAINTS LISTED IN A. ABOVE AND CONSEQUENTLY RESULT IN INCREASE OF STOCK ACCUMULATION IN MOPTI.

C. ABIDJAN/OUAGADOUGOU/NIAMEY/GAO POSSIBILITY: UPPER VOLTA/MALI CURRENT TENSIONS LEAVE LITTLE ASSURANCE THAT DONATED GRAIN STOCKS DESTINED FOR MALI WOULD TRANSIT UPPER VOLTA INTACT. SAME PROBLEM ARISES WITH RESPECT TO LOME/OUAGADOUGOU/GAO SHIPMENT ROUTE.

D. GOVERNMENT OF MALI/GOVERNMENT OF NIGER COMMUNICATIONS: PROBLEMS AROSE OVER NIGER GRAINS TRANS-SHIPMENT TO GAO IN 1974. SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS WERE RELATED TO MALI'S RELUCTANCE TO HAVE GAO SUPPLIED FROM NIAMEY; OTHERS TO NIGER'S CONCERN TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENT DONOR STOCKS MEET OWN REQUIREMENTS. DUE IN LARGE PART TO STRENUOUS EFFORTS OF U.S. EMBASSIES IN NIAMEY AND BAMAKO, THESE ISSUES WERE RESOLVED AND APPROXIMATELY 500 MT OF SORGHUM WAS DELIVERED TO GAO VIA NIAMEY DURING 1974 SOUDURE. HOPE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 093126

FULLY, NEED FOR USG DEMARCHE TO RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS WILL NOT EXIST THIS YEAR SINCE GOM NOW CONCURS ON USE OF ROUTE (SEE BAMAKO 0583) AND GON'S PRESENT NEED FOR IMPORT-ED DONATED STOCKS NOT OF 1974 DIMENSIONS. NEVERTHELESS, WE MAY HAVE TO REQUEST EMBASSY/USAID INTERVENTION IF TRANS-SHIPMENT DIFFICULTIES ARE ENCOUNTERED. (NOTE: AID/W HAS NOTED SUGGESTION THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE OPENED BETWEEN GOM AND GON TO HAVE FED/NIGER GRAIN FORWARDED TO

GAO AND REPLACED BY AID FURNISHED GRAIN. WE ARE KEEPING THIS OPTION IN RESERVE AND WILL CONSIDER SHOULD CHANGING EVENTS NECESSITATE.)

E. NATIONALIZATION OF DAHOMEY COMMODITY FORWARDING AGENCY TO ACTUAL EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT'S NATIONALIZATION POLICY ON COMMODITY FORWARDING IN DAHOMEY, DONORS REMAIN HOPEFUL THAT LACK OF SERIOUS SHIPPING DISCONTINUITIES DUE NATIONALIZATION OVER PAST THREE MONTHS IN COTONOU/NIAMEY ROUTE SUGGESTS SHIPMENTS WILL CONTINUE UNAFFECTED. SHOULD DIFFICULTIES DEVELOP, HOWEVER, EMBASSY/COTONOU IS PREPARED SEEK QUICK RESOLUTION THROUGH APPROPRIATE DEMARCHE.

F. CAPACITY OF COTONOU PORT: OFF-LOADING CAPABILITY AND COVERED STORAGE CAPACITY (15,000 MT) CONSIDERED ADEQUATE TO MEET FORESEEN GRAIN SHIPMENTS IF PRESENT SCHEDULES ARE ADHERED TO. NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SILO/BAGGING FACILITY IN PORT WILL BE FULLY OPERATIONAL BY END OF MAY ACCORDING TO OCDN DIRECTOR AND WILL ACCELERATE RATE-OF-STOCK MOVEMENT THROUGH PORT.

G. CAPACITY OF RAIL LINE FROM COTONOU TO PARAKOU: DURING PERIOD MAY 4, 1974-AUGUST 5, 1974, A TOTAL OF 39,330 TONS OF FOOD GRAINS WAS EVACUATED FROM COTONOU BY RAIL. THIS DAILY AVERAGE OF 437 MT WILL MOST LIKELY NOT BE ACHIEVED OVER THE SIMILAR PERIOD THIS YEAR" DUE TO DETERIORATING EQUIPMENT, NATIONALIZATION POLICIES, AND SPORADIC LABOR PROBLEMS. OUR CONJECTURE IS THAT AN AVERAGE EVACUATION RATE OF 200 MT CAN BE MAINTAINED IF DONORS COLLABORATIVELY MONITOR OCDN PERFORMANCE ON A DAILY BASIS. RECENT OCDN AGREEMENT TO SHIP FOOD GRAINS IN 25 MT TRUCKS FROM COTONOU TO NIGER WOULD SEEM TO ENSURE THAT 200 MT DAILY EVACUATION RATE FROM COTONOU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 093126

CAN BE MAINTAINED.

H. CONDITION OF LABBEZANGA/GAO ROAD: IF REPAIR WORK ON THIS ROUTE IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED TO PERMIT UN-INTERRUPTED FLOW OF COMMODITIES DURING WORST WEEKS OF RAINY SEASON, EQUIPMENT MIX OF TRUCK CONVOYS WILL BE ADJUSTED TO INSURE THROUGH-SHIPMENTS AS WAS DONE DURING 1974.

I. COST FACTOR: WHEN NIGER RIVER NOT NAVIGABLE, COTONOU/NIAMEY ROUTE TO GAO REPRESENTS LEAST COSTLY OF VARIOUS DELIVERY ROUTES AVAILABLE FROM COAST.

2. IT IS CLEAR FROM ABOVE THAT UP-COMING GRAIN SHIPMENTS OVER COTONOU/GAO ROUTE WILL NOT BE PROBLEM FREE' WE

ARE CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT CAREFULLY COORDINATED USG
EFFORT WILL ENABLE US TO ATTAIN FOOD-SUPPLY OBJECTIVE.
OSRO AND WFP STAND READY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AS REQUIRED

3. SEPTELS WILL FOLLOW ON SHIPMENT DETAILS.

DECONTROL: 4/22/76. KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CARGO, AFDROUGHT, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE093126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKELLY:HMILLER:JP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750142-0765
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750424/aaaaawbl.tel
Line Count: 177
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USE OF COTONOU/GAO ROUTE ROME FOR SKILES PASS OSRO
TAGS: EAID, ML, US
To: BAMAKO MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006